cannot have remunerative prices for pineapple , as North Eastern Region Agricultural and Marketing Corporation does not procure it in time; and

(d) the remedial measures contemplated and the time-frame for it?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited (NERAMAC) has three projects in different States of the North East:

1. Fruit Juice Concentration Plant at Nalkata, Tripura
2. Cashew Processing Unit at Agartala, Tripura, and
3. Ginger Processing Plant at Byrnihat, Meghalaya

(b) The Pineapple Juice Concentration Plant at Nalkata, Tripura was set up in 1988. This plant is based on single line production and produces only concentrate of Pineapple juice. Pineapple is available only for a period of maximum three months in a year. The plant had been running at a loss since the very inception.

(c) No, Sir. The pineapple producers of Tripura usually fix the price with NERAMAC for a particular season. However, NERAMAC purchases the pineapple only during peak production time to run the factory during summer production.

(d) Restructuring and modernization of pineapple juice concentration plant has been planned. Implementation is likely to take two years.

Funds for expansion of Food Processing Sector

3798. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Exim Bank of India has recommended three development funds for the expansion of food processing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether appropriate action has been taken to set up funds;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) to (e) At the time of framing of the Vision Document for the Food Processing Sector received, EXIM Bank, amongst other, had given their suggestions with regard to Creation of Export market Development Fund for agricultural products , a fund for Organic Agricultural Products Export Infrastructure Development Fund. Rabo India (Finance) Private Limited has since submitted the Vision Document with a nine point Strategy and Action Plan.

Network of Food Processing Industries

3799. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps being taken by Government to set up the network of food processing industries in hilly and tribal regions;

(b) the steps being taken to train the formers particularly the women in these areas, into food processing techniques;

(c) the steps being taken to provide financial, technical and marketing support to such enterprises located in isolated areas;

(d) whether an institutionalized mechanism has been set up to coordinate with the State Government; and

(e) whether the State Government agencies have been identified to ensure efficient delivery of such initiatives, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) to (c) Government has already implemented plan schemes for development of food processing industries in the country including in hilly and tribal regions. Financial assistance is provided @ 25% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of